

The Sun.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1881.

Amusements To-Day.

Big Top Opera House.—*Rehearsal for the new opera, "The Girl of the Year," by the company of the same name.*

Madison Square Theatre.—*The new opera, "The Girl of the Year," by the company of the same name.*

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The President made no progress yesterday. The physicians say that he held his own. His pulse and temperature were slightly higher than the account given in the morning bulletin of his fever of the night before was so worded as to renew anxiety. This fever came later than usual, and at an hour, it appears, when, at an earlier stage of the case, fever had been accompanied by chills and followed by an unfavorable change. There were no chills on Wednesday night, or so far as is known, yesterday; but the announcement that they had not appeared led the impression that they had been expected. Mr. BAKER'S dispatch suggests that the extremely trying weather may account for yesterday's fever and high pulse.

Tenacious of Life.

We may judge from the little exhibition in this city, that yesterday of the relative Stalwart and Half-Breed strength, that Mr. CONKLING is as tenacious of political life as GEN. GARFIELD is of physical life. It is found to be a very hard thing to kill off ROSCOE CONKLING.

And were it not for his enmity to the freedom of the press and his support of a third term, we could heartily rejoice at his triumph over meander flows.

What a fadless glory would have been his had he conscientiously and boldly exposed the wickedness of the Electoral Commission conspiracy!

Is It in Answer to Prayer?

Is marked improvement in the condition of the President a direct answer to the prayers offered up for his benefit?

It will be remembered that during the latest and most severe crisis of his disease his physicians, even the most hopeful of them, were filled with alarm, and his recovery was almost entirely despaired of. It would be a miracle, said the watchers by his bedside.

Is it a miracle?

That is to say, has there been a special, extraordinary interference by Divine Providence to restore him, when he would not have been restored but for the prayers of the people offered up for his benefit?

Most people will believe that it was a direct interposition of Divine Providence. Else what is the good of prayer?

Logicians affect to ridicule this idea. They say that the universe is governed by general laws. But that may be, and still prayers may be efficacious; for it may be one of the mysterious principles of the general system that prayers shall exercise a certain influence, not only in its effects, like the law of gravitation.

The Virtues and Devotion of American Wives.

It may well be a source of national pride that all which is justly said of the self-sacrifice and of the thoughtful and tender devotion of Mrs. GARFIELD to her husband during his long and distressing illness might be said with equal justice of almost every American wife under similar circumstances. Indeed, nothing less is expected of American women; and though they attract little or no attention, such instances of wifely care and watchful affection are of constant occurrence, in the parlors of the rich and in the humble dwellings of the poor and lowly; so that when Mrs. GARFIELD is praised, the high eulogies pronounced upon her being not to her alone, but are tributes to the character, the disinterestedness, and the fidelity of American wives in general. Indeed, so much is the exercise of all these womanly virtues looked upon as a matter of course, that the public would be greatly shocked at the manifestation of any lack of them in a case where the sufferings of a husband had been so terrible and prolonged. Many a common laborer, living from hand to mouth on his daily earnings, possesses the priceless treasure of a wife just as devoted; while it is fortunate that the conspicuous example of a President's wife has brought these common but high qualities of American women so prominently before the world.

The Police Justices and the New Code.

In reviewing the new Code of Criminal Procedure, we have considered only those provisions which are applicable to the whole State. At a meeting of the Police Justices of this city, held on Wednesday, the sections which prescribe the manner in which bail shall be taken by magistrates in cities were discussed, and the opinion was expressed that great inconvenience would result from the requirement of notice to the District Attorney of the time and place of giving bail in cases of felony. We think the code ought to authorize the magistrate to dispense with this requirement at his discretion; but the difficulty to which it will give rise is probably exaggerated.

In the first place, there is an express provision that the District Attorney may waive the giving of the notice. If it is found inconvenient in practice, we see no reason why he could not send a general waiver to the Police Justices, dispensing with it in all cases but the gravest offences. Then the time of the notice is practically under the control of the magistrate, who is expressly empowered to make it less than two days, and who can thus shorten it so as to require the immediate attendance of the District Attorney or his representative, just as a summary hearing on a writ of habeas corpus can be obtained by making it returnable forthwith.

The Police Justices seem also to be distressed at the prospect of having to take the depositions of witnesses in answer. At least so we infer from their decision to apply for an appropriation for stenographers. The services of a short-hand writer, however, will hardly permit compliance with the spirit of the code, which evidently contemplates that the testimony shall be fully written out, read to the witness, corrected if need be, and authenticated by the magistrate, without any such delay or necessity for the attendance of witnesses on an adjourned day as would inevitably arise if a stenographer were employed. For example, section 24 provides that each witness shall be distinctly read to the witness and shall be taken down, and shall be corrected or added

to until conformable to what he declares to be the truth. Of course this means taken down in long hand.

And why should not the Police Justices of this city write out the depositions in this manner, or have them written out by their clerks in their presence? What more important duty have they to perform? It will not avail as an excuse for avoiding it to say that their official burdens are already too onerous. They all appear to have enough time for other pursuits; let them economize a part of it for the benefit of the city which pays them such liberal salaries. There are already a plenty of Police Justices at political conventions. JACOB M. PATTERSON, JR., and SOLON B. SMITH were not so oppressed by judicial cares as to be kept away from the meeting of the Republican State Committee on the day before the new code went into effect. If they and their brother magistrates cannot comply with the new law without the assistance of stenographers, let them resign, and the Mayor will doubtless find successors for them who will gladly undertake the task at the same rate of compensation.

The Struggle for Ascendancy in the Republican Convention.

The test votes at the meeting of the Republican State Committee prove that a majority of the members still adhere to the Stalwart faith and to ROSCOE CONKLING, its chief apostle. As the decisions of the committee concerning the time and place for the assembling of the State Convention were likely to exert a good deal of influence in the campaign, great efforts had been made by the friends of the Administration to induce certain Stalwarts on the committee to abandon their principles and their leader. But these efforts seem to have produced no effect upon anybody except Speaker SHARPE, and perhaps a couple of others who might be picked up either side; while as to Mr. CONKLING, his course had not been doubtful since he deserted his colors and went over to the Half-Breeds in the Senatorial contest.

Mr. CONKLING'S ardent advocates, having carried every point in the committee against the Half-Breeds and their two or three recent converts, crowned the victory by electing ex-Senator THOMAS C. PLATT temporary Chairman in the room of Gen. ARTHUR, who was absent. It is a significant fact, however, that ARTHUR did not resign his place on the committee. Having prevailed upon the preliminary engagement, we suppose the Stalwarts will now put forth every exertion to win the main battle by carrying the State Convention. They have secured a period of unusual length in which to elect delegates, which was one of the points made by the Stalwarts; and the selection of this city as the spot where the Convention is to assemble is understood to be an important gain for their wing of the party.

The Stalwarts were largely in the ascendancy at each of the last six State Conventions excepting one. In the February Convention of 1876, they were defeated by the Half-Breeds. In the National Convention at Cincinnati, the supporters of Mr. CONKLING were in a majority of three to one; and all the delegates to Cincinnati then elected voted for him as the Presidential nominee, excepting GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS. One of the delegates who voted on every ballot for CONKLING until his name was withdrawn was WILLIAM H. ROBERTSON. At the September Convention of 1876 for the nomination of a State ticket, and when Mr. MORGAN was presented as the candidate for Governor, the CONKLING element voted in this preliminary engagement, we suppose the Stalwarts will now put forth every exertion to win the main battle by carrying the State Convention. They have secured a period of unusual length in which to elect delegates, which was one of the points made by the Stalwarts; and the selection of this city as the spot where the Convention is to assemble is understood to be an important gain for their wing of the party.

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Although dwellers in the city seldom realize personally the effects of a prolonged drought, New Yorkers cannot now fail to do so. The parks were never in such a lamentable condition. The grass is withered and dead, and the trees are beginning to turn green; the leaves on the trees are not only in parks but all over the city are slowly dying on the branches, and in many places rapidly falling to the earth. Shrubs and plants are dying. Dust fills the air. Rain was never more needed than now in New York.

The telegraph brought no better news yesterday than that there have been copious rains in the Northwest. Unfortunately for the East, the wind all day yesterday blew hot from the south, and toward night it shifted to westward, and the rain which fell was not only before long. One peculiarity noticed by farmers is that, while the drought continues, the moon is a particularly wet one. It hangs in the heavens in such a position that no amount of imagination can conceive of its being able to hold a drop of water; nor could even the most intricate powder horn be hung safely upon the crescent.

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and applying when the opportunity offers, he ought to leave the party without further ado, and let Kentucky elect a man in his place who believes what he professes.

Sir DUDLEY MARJORIBANKS, whom Mr. Gladstone sends up to the Lords, is one more addition to the now long list of commercial nobles. An English knight some four centuries ago created one DE LA POZE, whom he styled his beloved merchant, a duke in recognition of "value received," but thereafter until the reign of GEORGE III. a successful trader had small chance of ennoblement, nor would he have any then but that Pitt insisted on the preference being given to the Duke of Devonshire. Even then he could only get the King to give an Irish peerage, which he estimated far below an English baronetcy; but the thin edge had been cut in, and, being driven further a few years later, SMITH, a very worthy person, became a peer of the United Kingdom.

The two foolhardy men who last year sailed from this country to London in a steamer boat have now added to their foolhardiness by sailing back. According to reports, they arrived at Cape Breton just in time, for their little craft was leaking and nearly disabled. Just what return these men get for their adventures they do not say.

The lawyers who are endeavoring to prove that the man who claims to be VINCENZO RABELLO, a New Orleans fruit seller, is in fact GIUSEPPE ESPERITO, the Sicilian bandit, are not having smooth sailing in their undertaking. When the Italian was brought here in chains from New Orleans, he was brought in by a man who made short work of him; but weeks and months have gone by, and the alleged brigand has not yet been sent to Italy. The longer he remains in Ludlow street jail the stronger grows the evidence that he is not the bandit. The case thus far has not reflected glory upon those who claim to be acting for the Italian Government.

Bad news comes from Indiana concerning the Quakers. It is rare news, too, for Quakers seldom figure as such in lawsuits, and this news is that the White Lick Quakers are at law. A large number of them have been sued by the White Lick Quakers for the sum of \$100,000. Unfortunately, there are two societies, each claiming to be the White Lick Quarterly Meeting, and each naturally claims the money; and so the courts have been called upon to decide the case. The plaintiff society claims the money, and the defendant society claims the money. The case is now before the courts.

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Don JOSE MARIA VALVERDE, Auditor of the Royal Court of Appeals of Havana, Cuba, is in this country studying our prison system. On Tuesday, when visiting the Albany Penitentiary, he was accompanied by a number of his countrymen, and they were all very much interested in the management of public affairs that a well-regulated Administration will not be possible in New York for years to come.

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on the Canadian side. The American amateur players having this year beaten both the Canadians and the English resident players, the latter, as usual, reinforced by the professionals, an interesting match might be made by the best amateurs of all Canada, aided by the best amateurs of all England, residents in the United States, against a Philadelphia native-born amateur team. This would presumably give the Canadians a reinforcement, and thus make a more even match for the Americans.

The Hay Fever Association met in the White Mountain region last Tuesday, and elected officers for the coming year; but the remaining business was so onerous that the association had to be taken until next Monday. Why are the victims of hay fever the only invalids who form a society to meet annually and exchange condolences? We never hear of a Consumptive Society, or a Liver Complaint League, or a Tie Douloureux Congress. But the devotees of hay fever are anxious to meet and exchange condolences. It is the only society in which the members are not only to meet and exchange condolences, but to exchange condolences.

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THE WEEK STUMPER OF OHIO.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—Senator Sherman's intention to stump Ohio for Foster is announced by the press. This is Sherman's first trip to Ohio, and he is expected to be very successful. He is expected to be very successful. He is expected to be very successful.

There is something pitiable in the treatment John Sherman has received, even when his own outrageous abuse of the public service is considered. He might be described as The Man in a Corner, or the one who dare not say his soul is his own, he is so at the mercy of his enemies. He would as soon see Foster at Land's End as Governor again. Nevertheless, he is compelled to take the stump for his election. The crookedness of his operations in the Treasury Department is the book in Sherman's nose, whereof Blaine and Foster and the rest of them are leading him around.

Readers will remember how Mr. Windom's late Treasury investigation was suddenly and unaccountably squelched—bushed up and stopped at the moment the true Sherman strategy was struck. In this way Sherman is saved up for the sake of Foster, and is compelled to go on the stump in Ohio and do penance.

There is special cruelty to Sherman in this, for there is special danger in the prospect for Foster. Sherman's late investigation was suddenly and unaccountably squelched—bushed up and stopped at the moment the true Sherman strategy was struck. In this way Sherman is saved up for the sake of Foster, and is compelled to go on the stump in Ohio and do penance.

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